

Message Text

PAGE 01 BANGKO 18897 061019Z

55

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

----- 049484

O 060951Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8761

S E C R E T BANGKOK 18897

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, TH

SUBJ: KRIS SIVARA ON THE CURRENT THAI SITUATION

REF: A. BANGKOK 18853

B. BANGKOK 18862

1. GENERAL KRIS SIVARA, RTA ARMY COMMANDER AND DIRECTOR OF PEACEKEEPING UNDER THE SANYA GOVERNMENT, DISCUSSED WITH THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR DECEMBER 6 THE KING'S ABRUPT CHANGE OF BIRTHDAY PLANS (REFTEL A), AND REITERATED SEVERAL OF THE THEMES FROM HIS DECEMBER 3 PRESS CONFERENCE (REFTEL B).

2. ON THE KING, KRIS SAID THAT HIS MAJESTY TOOK THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE CABINET COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE. KRIS HAD BEEN WITH THE KING ON DECEMBER 3 AT WHICH TIME HIS MAJESTY APPEARED HAPPY AND GAVE NO FORECAST OF HIS CHANGE OF PLANS. KRIS SAID THAT SEVERAL THEORIES WERE FLOATING AROUND TOWN ABOUT WHY THE KING LEFT SO ABRUPTLY, BUT THE MOST LIKELY IN HIS MIND WAS THAT A FORTUNE TELLER HAD WARNED HIM TO GET OUT OF BANGKOK. HE SAYS THE KING DOES CONSULT SOOTHSAYERS FROM TIME TO TIME.

3. ON THE STRIKES, KRIS SAID THAT, WHILE THE POLITICAL SITUATION THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WAS DISTURBING, IT WAS NOT YET SERIOUS. HE WAS KEEPING A FILE ON EACH STRIKE THAT OCCURRED AND NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN 12 TO 14 PER DAY. HE BELIEVES THAT THE STRIKES WILL, IN KEEPING WITH THAI TRADITION, CONTINUE IN IMITATIVE FASHION ONE AFTER THE OTHER, SORT OF LIKE A STRING OF FIRECRACKERS,
SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 18897 061019Z

UNTIL THEY HAVE MADE THE ROUNDS OF ALL THE STATE ENTERPRISES.

4. ASKED WHAT LEVEL OF CHAOS WOULD HAVE TO PREVAIL BEFORE THE RTA BEGAN TO ASSERT STRONGER AUTHORITY, KRIS REPEATED THE PRESS

CONFERENCE THEME THAT HE WAS NOT THE SURGEON BUT THE MACHINERY
WHICH THE SURGEON WOULD USE. HE GAVE A CONVINCING IMPRESSION
THAT THE THAI MILITARY HAVE NO CURRENT INTENTION OF EXERTING A
STRONGER ROLE.
KINTNER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO18897
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750029-2043
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731256/abqcefnng.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: A. BANGKOK 18853 B. BANGKOK 18862
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KRIS SIVARA ON THE CURRENT THAI SITUATION
TAGS: PEPR, PINS, TH, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005